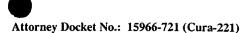


Date of Deposit: January 21, 2003



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:

Li, et al.

SERIAL NUMBER:

09/804,014

EXAMINER:

D. Sullivan

FILING DATE:

March 12, 2001

ART UNIT:

1636

For:

Novel Polypeptides and Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 20, 2002 OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office Action Dated September 20, 2002, Applicants elect the invention of Group XII (claims 5-14, 30 and 33, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8) without traverse.

A petition for a three-month extension of time and required fee are filed herewith. With this extension of time, this response is due on January 21, 2003 (January 20, 2003 being a Holiday). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or to credit any overpayment, to the undersigned's account, Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Ref. No. 15966-721.

Dated: January 21, 2003

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529

Naomi S. Biswas, Reg. No. 38,384

c/o MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS GLOVSKY AND POPEO, P.C.

One Financial Center

Boston, Massachusetts 02111

Tel: (617) 542-6000 Fax: (617) 542-2241

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